

County," and explaining the new rules and procedures regarding admission of patients. From it we quote the following paragraphs:

Los Angeles County General Hospital Made Up of Two Hospitals.—By a recent action of the Board of Supervisors it was ordered that while this institution as a whole should be known as "Los Angeles County General Hospital" for purposes of financial administration, those portions of it in which patients are treated by physicians and surgeons who are doctors of medicine (M. D.'s) should be known for public and professional purposes as "Los Angeles County Hospital" and those portions in which patients are treated by physicians and surgeons who are doctors of osteopathy (D. O.'s) should be known for public and professional purposes as "Los Angeles County Osteopathic Hospital."

The intent of this action was to indicate more clearly to the public the distinction in name between the two types of medical and surgical treatment offered to patients at these two county institutions and to let the public make its own choice between these two types rather than assign applicants arbitrarily by the numerical ratio of one in ten as heretofore, a ratio based upon the relative bed capacity of the Osteopathic Hospital as compared with the Medical Hospital before the opening of the new acute unit. The staffs of physicians and surgeons of both hospitals acquiesce in the abolition of the old rule, feeling that the public should have a free choice. The hospital administration favors the change because it simplifies admitting procedure and saves a large number of transfers of patients after admission, thus contributing to economical operation, a very important item in times like the present.

Persons Wishing to Be Admitted Should Indicate Their Choice.—The new plan of "free choice" will go into effect November 1, 1934. On and after that date all persons and agencies having anything to do with referral of patients to the Los Angeles County General Hospital are requested to obtain from the patient a statement of choice as between the Los Angeles County Hospital (staff made up of M. D.'s) and the Los Angeles County Osteopathic Hospital (staff made up of D. O.'s) and to indicate this choice when notifying the hospital regarding patients; also to instruct patients who are to make personal application to the hospital that they should make their choice before applying, and thus save much time and many steps by going direct to the hospital of their choice. . . .

Explanation of Staffs to Prospective Patients.—In explaining to applicants for admission that there are two hospitals with two types of doctors between which a choice must be made, the following language is advised:

"The professional staffs of the Los Angeles County General Hospital are composed of two types of doctors:

"(a) Physicians and surgeons who are doctors of medicine (M. D.'s) working in the 'Los Angeles County Hospital,' and

"(b) Physicians and surgeons who are doctors of osteopathy (D. O.'s) working in the 'Los Angeles County Osteopathic Hospital.'

"Applicants who are eligible for care at county expense may be admitted to either of the two hospitals, but should state their choice before admission and go or be taken direct to the admitting department of the hospital of their choice."

Your assistance in disseminating this information to all concerned will be appreciated.

The Medical Board of the Attending Staff of the Los Angeles County Hospital may feel proud of the service it has rendered in a matter of such very near interest to the two thousand members of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, of general concern to the other members of the California Medical Association and of no little

importance to the public at large; and because many members of the California Medical Association have long been watching the course of events, space is here given to the new rules.

REPRINTS OF ARTICLES ON ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION

The Ivy and Rowell Articles to Be Reprinted.—The October number of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE called attention (on page 272) to an excellent presentation of facts concerning animal experimentation, as portrayed in the Northwestern University exhibit at the Chicago Century of Progress Fair. The text of Professor A. C. Ivy's article on "Some Contributions on Animals to Human Health" was printed on page 247 of the same issue. Most members of the medical profession are familiar with many of the facts brought out in Doctor Ivy's exhibit; but, on the other hand, comparatively few of us had grouped that information in anything like the admirable set-up arranged by him and his faculty-colleagues of Northwestern University. The November issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE (page 325) printed what might be styled a complementary or follow-up article, in the form of an address by Doctor Ivy, having the title "Seven Wonders of Medical Science—Modern Miracles." Readers of this JOURNAL are urged to peruse both articles, because they give complete and sane answers to the misstatements of antivivisectionists.

At its last meeting, held in Los Angeles on November 10, the Council of the California Medical Association authorized the publication of a reprint leaflet that would contain the two addresses by Doctor Ivy and also the article on "Antivivisection" by Chester Rowell, LL. D., first appearing on page 352 of the May, 1933, issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. Members of the California Medical Association, and of its Woman's Auxiliary, who desire copies of these reprints, should send in their requests to the Association Secretary.

EDITORIAL COMMENT*

DRUGS AND DEAFNESS

The pathways along which the art of healing has evolved are strewn with the milestones of empirical methods, leaving often behind stigmata as serious as, if not more so than, the diseases they were intended to cure. Our progress has been amazing, research has been indefatigable, but there are some fields which as yet have received far too little attention. Clinicians of the various specialties are justifiably interested mainly in curing or ameliorating the condition for which their advice is being sought. Other concomitant effects of their

* This department of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE presents editorial comment by contributing members on items of medical progress, science and practice, and on topics from recent medical books or journals. An invitation is extended to all members of the California and Nevada Medical Associations to submit brief editorial discussions suitable for publication in this department. No presentation should be over five hundred words in length.